

EMAIL ACCESS TO SECURE ENTERPRISE RESOURCES

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 A Trojan horse method and apparatus to permit email access to secure
enterprise resources within an enterprise's firewall. An email message is used to permit
a user to gain access to computer resources such as databases maintained within a
secure enterprise's firewall. An email message generated from a palmtop computer or
any other computer capable of sending and receiving email messages is used to pass
10 through the firewall as a conventional email message would. The email message is
received at a designated computer that recognizes reserved command words as a part
of the email message, preferably as a part of the subject line thereof. Upon recognizing
the reserved command word, the email message is parsed to determine key
components of a command that can be executed on a desired enterprise computer
15 resource. An appropriate command (e.g., an SQL query) is then created for execution
on the enterprise computer resource (e.g., a database). A response or
acknowledgement is then returned to the sender as an email message.

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